

# An Analysis Of Using English Sentence Structures Of Indonesian Tour Guides In Prambanan Temple

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## Abstract

English is considered as one of important languages in human life. Recently, English is a requirement for working people, and one of the working fields which require their employees to master English is tour guide. This research is a descriptive qualitative research which described the English sentences used by Indonesian tour guide in Prambanan temple. This research investigated their competency in producing English sentences. This study focused on the percentage of correct and incorrect sentences produces by Indonesian tour guides in Prambanan Temple. The writer finds that each respondent produced three types of sentences, which are simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences. Based on the analysis, each respondent produced more simple sentences than other types of sentences.

**Keywords:** Sentence, Tour Guide

## Abstrak

*Bahasa Inggris merupakan salah satu bahasa terpenting yang dipakai oleh kebanyakan orang. Akhir-akhir ini bahasa Inggris merupakan bahasa yang harus dikuasai oleh para pekerja, dan salah satu lahan kerja yang membutuhkan ketrampilan bahasa Inggris tersebut adalah pemandu wisata. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif yang mana mendeskripsikan kalimat-kalimat berbahasa Inggris yang digunakan oleh pemandu wisata local di candi Prambanan. Penelitian ini mengamati tentang kompetensi para pemandu wisata tersebut dalam menghasilkan kalimat-kalimat bahasa Inggris. Penelitian ini terfokus pada seberapa banyak kalimat yang benar atau salah yang dihasilkan oleh pemandu wisata local di candi Prambanan. Peneliti mendapatkan hasil bahwa masing-masing responden menghasilkan tiga jenis kalimat, yaitu kalimat sederhana, kalimat majemuk, dan kalimat lengkap. Namun dari hasil akhir kesemuanya didapatkan bahwa masing-masing responden menghasilkan lebih banyak kalimat sederhana daripada kalimat-kalimat yang lainnya.*

**Kata kunci:** Kalimat, Pemandu Wisata

## INTRODUCTION

It is certain that nowadays English is considered as one international languages besides French and Chinese because it is used by most people in most countries in the world as their native language as in the

United States of America, United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and Australia where English is used in their daily live and the language they know since they were born, as their

second language as in Malaysia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Kenya, South Korea, Ethiopia, Burma and India, or as their foreign language as in Indonesia, Germany and Japan (Quirk, 1972: 3).

English is also considered one of important languages since it is used in many fields of human life, for examples in educational field, public administration, science and technology, mass media, international entertainment, publicity and in literature (Strevens, 1980: 73). Recently, English is a requirement for working people. They have to master English, at least, passively. One of the working fields which require their employees to master English is tourism since this field deals with people from foreign countries that usually use English as their means of communication.

Yogyakarta as one of the tourism cities in Indonesia has many interesting places to visit. One of them is Prambanan Temple area which consists of many heritage places such as Siwa Temple, Brahma Temple and Wishnu Temple (Purwadi, 2005: 391). Many tourists are eager to visit those heritage places inside Prambanan Temple area because they find those places interesting and they want to know more about the history behind those heritage places.

In order to achieve what they want, tourists who cannot speak Indonesian need tour guides who are in charge of giving direction and explanation about heritage places in Prambanan Temple. Considering the fact, it is clear that all tour guides of Prambanan Temple are required to be able to speak English fluently when they carry out their duty. However, the writer found out that tour guides in Prambanan Temple found difficulties when they have to speak in English. They lack English competence,

particularly their grammar skill.

Gass and Selinker (1994: 8) state that knowing a language entails knowing a set of rules with which we can produce an infinite set of sentences. Fromkin (1991: 6) also states that it involves ability to “combine words to form phrases and phrases to form sentences”. In fact, the combinations of those elements are not random. English sentence has its own grammar and structures of forming sentences. Hence, “knowing a language means knowing its grammar” (Haegeman and Guéron, 1999: 16).

However, understanding and mastering second languages and foreign languages may be difficult. These difficulties may range from the irregular spelling of second languages and foreign languages to interference of speaker’s mother tongue. In addition, most Indonesian learners of English have difficulty mastering the English system of sentence construction because English sentence structure contains complexities and because their contact with English is generally very limited (Nuryanto, 1979: 5). Remembering that the most important function of languages is as a means of communication and interaction (Alwasilah, 1993: 89), tour guides are supposed to encounter these problems and perform as perfect as possible when they talk to English-speaking tourists because “undoubtedly the minimum standard of performance which any ordinary learner should aim at this one which is easily understood by the native speaker of English” (Gimson, 1975: 2). When tour guides can perform well, there will be no misunderstanding so that the communication and interaction between tour guides and tourists work well. By doing so, the basic function of language can be achieved.

Based on the fact, the writer wants to study tour guides in Prambanan Temple in relation to their mastery of English syntax as a mean of communication and

the basic requirement to carry out their duties.

This research was an attempt to study the character of tour guides in Prambanan Temple while they were guiding English speaking tourists. The character to be investigated was their competency in producing English sentences. The area which was examined in this study was the percentage of correct and incorrect sentences produces by Indonesian tour guides in Prambanan Temple.

### Tour Guides

There are several authors who define what tour guide is. Some of them are Mancini and Pond. Mancini (1990: 5) defines a tour guide as someone who takes people on sightseeing excursions of limited duration, and Pond (1993: 260) defines tour guide as “any individual who leads groups and provides commentary for them”. In addition, in the United Kingdom, guide is also called “a carrier” which according to Dictionary of Travel, Tourism and Hospitality, it means “a person employed by the tour organizer and escorting a group tour who may also act as a guide.”

Mancini (1990: 5) states that based on the place of doing the job, guides are divided into two kinds, on-site guide and city guide. On-site guide means “one who conducts tours of one or several hours a a specific building, attraction or limited area,” whereas a city guide means someone who “points out and comment on the highlights of a city, usually from a motor coach, mini-bus or van. Here, tour guides in Prambanan Temple is considered on-site guides because they conduct tours for several hours only at Prambanan Temple area.

### METHODOLOGY

This research is descriptive qualitative research, which try to explain about what happen to the subject of the research and then described by using scientific methods

(Moleong, 2010). This research has an aim to get the information and described about the English sentences used by tour guide.

### Subject

The subject of this research is tour guide in Prambanan Temple.

### Collecting the Data

The data has collected from documents and interview. The instrument used in this research is field note taken from interview.

### Analyzing Data

This research will analyze based from the data that has taken. Then the researchers doing data reduction, analyzed, and make conclusion. The data reduction has an aim to select the data which is contributing the research. After that, the researchers analyzed the data in writing and then took the conclusion from the research finding.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

(Table 1)

Respondent A

No.	Sentence	Correct	Incorrect
1	So it was like a puzzle.	√	
2	So like a puzzle.		√
3	It depends on the statue that we have inside.		√
4	He is called Agastya or Maharesi or Mahaguru.	√	
5	And Wishnu in the north side of the biggest one.		√
6	Wishnu is the god of protector.	√	

7	Siwa is the destroyer.	√	
8	That's why in front of Siwa we call it Bull Temple or Nandi Temple.	√	
9	Nandi is the name of the bull.	√	
10	And then for Brahma he has angsa or angsa it's means the swan.		√
11	Two of them are called Apit.	√	
12	Four of them are called Kelir.	√	
13	Because it's still dangerous for themselves.	√	
14	And the distance from Hindus to Buddhist just about seven hundred meters and it's proved us because the temple it was built in the same time during eight and nine century, so it's proved us that the Hindus and Buddhist family they could live together in the same place, the same time.		√
15	They will	√	

	come here to do offering together with the priest.		
16	That's why they use a Balinese style.	√	
17	So like we can see in the first time that Wishnu has a special duty to protect us from evil spirit.	√	
18	His name is Kalki.	√	
19	She was kidnapped by the king of demon.	√	
20	And the demon comes from Sri Lanka.		√
21	So three persons in the forest.		√
22	But when Rama run up the deer, Rama always fail to catch the deer and he decide to shoot the deer by his arrow.		√
23	We call it Sati.	√	
24	Rama believe in her.		√
25	And also people believe in her and nobody cry anymore.		√
26	Well, in the biggest temple we have four chambers.	√	
27	One of them we can see	√	

	like Siwa.		
28	And the front arm symbolization of rebuilder.		√
29	The power of Siwa is described like the power of time.	√	
30	It's like the power of Siwa.	√	
31	Siwa will destroy everything, like that one.	√	
32	And then in the left hand of him he hold a fly water.		√
33	Because the fly also symbolization of evil.		√
34	We call it Yoni.	√	
35	Yoni is a representation of female, representation the wife of Siwa.		√
36	He is the real protector.	√	
37	So still one more left.		√
38	The good one also will be damaged	√	
39	So he need to be a teacher.		√
40	And the right hand also like Buddha.		√
41	And then in the left hand of him he hold a water jar.		√
42	In the right hand he	√	

	holds, actually he holds his broken tusk.		
43	And then in the left hand of him, he hold a coconut bowl.		√
44	They use Ganesh to be the emblem.	√	
45	Why they need to touch the trunk?		√
46	At least the memory will be stronger.	√	
47	Durga is wife of Siwa.	√	
48	So we can see that the statue of Durga or Kali has more than four arms.	√	
49	And one of her hand hold demon on the left hand of her.		√
50	And she kills the buffalo first and the buffalo transform to be a demon again.		√
51	And she kill the demon.		√
52	So Siwa destroyer, his wife also the destroyer.		√
53	But why they want to touch the staue?		√
54	Because we have a legend about the statue.	√	
55	That's why finally she was cursed to	√	

	be the last statue to complete a thousand statues and temples in one single night.		
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(Table 2)  
Respondent B

No.	Sentence	Correct	Incorrect
1	Now I will be your guide and I hope your visit...you can enjoy your visit.	√	
2	Okay, now we go to the museum.	√	
3	This is Prambanan Archeological Park.	√	
4	This park is about eighty hectares.	√	
5	Sewu Temple from this information centre is about eight hundred meters.		√
6	And then to go to Sewu Temple is available transportation, mini train.		√
7	Just pay five thousand per person.		√
8	There are about two hundred	√	

	dancers.		
9	That performance begin from seven thirty to nine thirty.		√
10	Okay, now we go to the temple.	√	
11	Formerly in this complex actually there were two hundred and forty temples.	√	
12	And then because big eruption, almost the temple in Central Java broken and then the people usually they move to East Java and also move to Bali.		√
13	Formerly in this complex there were two hundred and forty temples.	√	
14	And we don't know the original shape, original form of the temple, so the restoration was very-very difficult.		√
15	So two hundred twenty two temples still broken.		√
16	Otherwise, the restoration also more		√

	difficult.		
17	So very difficult to know.		√
18	So look like puzzle.		√
19	That is the beautiful princess cursed into statue by Bandung Bondowoso, the young man who want to married her.		√
20	But we know most people believe the legend.	√	
21	Because the legend, the story more interesting than the history.		√
22	The history is very difficult to remember.	√	
23	And then in the middle night the young man meditation.		√
24	Now the statue inside in the biggest temple.		√
25	The biggest temple is forty seven meters high.	√	
26	So that is why Siwa Temple is the biggest temple and in the middle.	√	
27	Mahaguru mean the highest teacher.		√
28	He has long		√

	beard symbolize wisdom.		
29	And then on the...on his right, he has weapon name Trisula symbolize trinity, Brahma, Siwa and Wishnu.		√
30	Actually three God, Brahma, Siwa and Wishnu actually only one God.		√
31	And different function different names.		√
32	Ganesha is the son of Siwa.	√	
33	So people call him the God of Knowledge.	√	
34	That just mythology.		√
35	And then why he has elephant head?		√
36	Why Siwa's son has elephant head?		√
37	Siwa is the highest God so he must have a beautiful girl.	√	
38	And then Siwa angry on Ganesha.		√
39	Siwa kill him with arrow.		√
40	And then because Siwa's arrow cut the neck		√

	and then Ganesha head to be cutted and then flies and disappear.		
41	Durga is the wife of Siwa.	√	
42	The other name is Parwati, Uma or Kali.		√
43	Her hands brings some weapons to kill her enemy.		√
44	So that is why Durga has many weapons.	√	
45	The demons has magic power.		√
46	That story of Hindu.		√
47	But according to the legend she is Roro Jonggrang.	√	
48	It is Roro Jonggrang in the fourth room.	√	
49	So ladies and gentkemen, now we are in the Brahma Temple.	√	
50	We know in this temple only has one room.		√
51	Inside has statue of Brahma.	√	
52	He has four heads symbolize four books of hindu.	√	
53	And then why God		√

	Brahma has four heads?		
54	Why?		√

## Data Analysis

(Table 3)

Responde nt	Total Number of Sentences	Correct Sentence	Incorr ect Senten ce
A	55	31 (51,64%)	24 (43,6%)
B	54	20 (37%)	34 (63%)

It has been said that the respondent produced simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences. In fact, not all of those sentences were correct. There were also incorrect sentences in which errors could be found. In this session, the total number and the percentage of correct and incorrect sentences would be revealed in the form of tables. Since the types of sentences produced by the respondents were simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences, there are three tables which include the total number and the percentage of correct and incorrect simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences.

Respondent A produced 42 simple sentences. From total 42 simple sentences, 25 sentences of the total amount are correct simple sentences and 17 sentences are incorrect simple sentences. Sentences below are 2 out of 25 correct sentences:

- (1) She was kidnapped by the king of demon. (A 19)
- (2) We call it Sati. (A 23)

Two sentences below are examples of incorrect simple sentences produced by respondent A:

- (3) And Wishnu in the north side of the biggest one. (A 5)
- (4) Why they need to touch the trunk? (A 45)

From the Table 4 above, it can be seen that the respondent A only produced incorrect compound sentences. From 6 compound sentences, all of them were incorrect. The followings are examples of incorrect



compound sentences produced by respondent A:

- (5) And the for Brahma has angsa or angsa it's mean the swan. (A 10)
- (6) So Siwa destroyer, his wife also the destroyer. (A 52)

In producing complex sentences, similar to what happened while producing simple and compound sentences, respondent A made correct and incorrect sentences. From the total amount of 7 sentences, 6 sentences are correct complex sentences while 1 sentence is incorrect ones. Below are examples of correct complex sentences produced by respondent A:

- (7) It depends on the statue that we have inside. (A 3)
- (8) That's why they use a Balinese style. (A 16)

As stated previously, respondent A also produced incorrect complex sentences. Below are examples of incorrect complex sentences produced by respondent A:

- (9) And the distance from Hindus to Buddhist just about seven hundred meters and it's proved us because the temple it was built in the same time during eight and nine century. (A 14)

Respondent B produced 42 simple sentences. From total 42 simple sentences, 15 sentences of the total amount were correct simple sentences and 27 sentences were incorrect simple sentences. The followings are 2 out of 15 correct simple sentences:

- (10) The biggest temple is forty seven meters high. (B 25)
- (11) Durga is the wife of Siwa. (B 41)

Two sentences below are examples of incorrect simple sentences produced by respondent B:

- (12) And then to go to Sewu Temple is available the transportation, mini train. (B 6)
- (13) That performance begin from seven thirty to nine thirty. (B 9)

From the transcription. It can be seen that respondent B produced both correct and incorrect sentences. From 5 compound sentences produced by respondent B, 3 sentences were correct ones. The two examples of correct compound sentences produced by respondent B are below:

- (14) Now I will be your guide and I hope your visit...you can enjoy

your visit. (B 1)

- (15) Siwa is the highest god so he must have a beautiful wife. (B 37)

In the other hand, from 5 compound sentences produced by respondent B, 2 sentences were incorrect compound sentences. Below are the examples of incorrect compound sentences.

- (16) And we don't know the original shape, original form of the temple, so the restoration was very-very difficult. (B 14)
- (17) And the because Siwa's arrow cut the neck and then Ganeha head to be cutted and then flies and disappear. (B 40)

In producing complex sentences, similar to what happened while producing simple and compound sentences, respondent B made correct and incorrect complex sentences. From the total amount of 7 sentences, 2 sentences are correct complex sentences while 5 sentences are incorrect ones. Below are examples of correct complex sentences produced by respondent B:

- (18) But we know most people believe the legend. (B 20)
- (19) So that is why Durga has many weapons. (B 44)

As stated previously, respondent B also produced incorrect complex sentences. The examples are as follows:

- (20) And then because big eruption, almost the temple in Central Java broken and then the people usually they move to East Java and also move to Bali. (B 12)
- (21) He has four heads symbolize four books of Hindu. (B 52)

## CONCLUSION(S)

It is obvious that knowing a language involves ability to produce English utterances. In fact, not all of people can meet this requirement. There are people who can produce well-formed English sentences and there are people who cannot produce English sentences or they produced ill-formed English sentences.

In this study, the writer analyzed both correct and incorrect sentences

produced by respondents. From the transcription, for each type of sentences, the respondent produced correct and incorrect sentences. The writer finds that each respondent produced three types of sentences, which are simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences. Based on the analysis, each respondent produced more simple sentences than other types of sentences.

Regardless the correctness it is a system based on the respondents' best effort to produce the second language. Related to the basic function of a language as a means to communicate and interact, the respondents have a wrong way of thinking that grammar is the second important aspect of English language. This way of thinking comes from the fact that both the respondents and their clients, in this case, English-spoken tourists, know what each other are talking. In other words, they can communicate, interact, understand and are understood. Having found that they can use English to communicate and interact well enough they have no motivation to learn English further and to lessen their errors. That is why their English fossilize.

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